STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE **RESOLUTION NO. 50**

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES TO LEAD A GLOBAL EFFORT TO PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR

WHEREAS, global arsenals have approximately 14,000 nuclear weapons, and most are far more destructive than those that killed hundreds of thousands of people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan in 1945; and

WHEREAS, the detonation of even a small number of these weapons anywhere in the world could have catastrophic human and environmental consequences that could affect everyone on the planet; and

WHEREAS, a large scale nuclear war would kill hundreds of millions of people directly and cause unimaginable environmental damage, producing conditions wherein the vast majority of the human race would starve and mankind might possibly become extinct as a species; and

WHEREAS, the United States maintains nuclear missiles on hair-trigger alert, capable of being launched within minutes after only a presidential order, which greatly increases the risk of an accidental, mistaken or unauthorized launch; and

WHEREAS, the United States, as well as Britain, China, France, and Russia are obligated under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to take concrete steps toward eliminating their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations approved the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which makes it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, manufacture, or otherwise acquire, possess or stockpile nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and

WHEREAS, United States taxpayers spend over \$2 million every hour of every day to maintain the United States arsenal, and the planned expenditure of more than \$1.2 trillion to enhance our nuclear arsenal will exacerbate nuclear dangers by fueling a global arms race and diverting crucial resources needed to assure the well-being of American people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of East Providence hereby calls on the United States and the Rhode Island Congressional Delegation to lead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by:

- 1. Renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- 2. Ending the sole, unchecked authority of any president to launch a nuclear attack;
- 3. Taking United States nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- 4. Cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- 5. Actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed nations to eliminate their nuclear arsenals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of Rhode Island's Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by the City Council:_____/0/24/ 2019

Attest:

IN CITY COUNCIL

Clerk of East Providence, Rhode Island

FIRST READING READ AND PASSED

Introduced by: Council President Britto